Letter from the President
By Danielle Deneau, Road Commission for Oakland County

It is hard to believe that we are already nearing the end of the year! We are all looking forward to the MiTEC/Annual Meeting in East Lansing at the MSU Kellogg Center on December 2nd and 3rd. Hope you are all able to join us for this lively year-end event.

The Michigan Section has had an exciting year! We started the year out with our first Technical Meeting on March 5th, hosted by Kim Lariviere, at the Royal Scot Golf and Bowl in Lansing. The second Technical Meeting on October 15th, hosted by Chris Zull, was at The Rapid in Grand Rapids. This event also included a Networking Mixer after the session hosted by ITS Michigan. For each of our events we are able to offer Continuing Educations Hours, so please join us to learn something new and earn those hours. Thank you to all who attended the sessions, our Planning Committee for the informative speakers and to ITS Michigan for hosting a fun mixer!

The 23rd Annual ITE Benefit Golf Outing at Mystic Creek Golf Club in Milford on May 28th is always a great event! The weather was beautiful and a good time was had by all. Congratulations to the winning team of Tim, Jason, Paul and Luis. The students were the big winners with the money raised for educational scholarships. Thank you to Aimee Giacherio and the Golf Committee for planning another great event.

The ITE Great Lakes District Meeting was held at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio on April 20 and 21. It was another informative event and we had two student teams representing the Michigan Section in the Traffic Bowl. The students from Wayne State University and Western Michigan University did a great job! Although Purdue University was the overall winner, it is always fun trying to test my own knowledge of transportation trivia.

Join me in congratulating the Michigan Section and Great Lakes District Student Paper Award winner - Richard Atta Boateng from Western Michigan University. His winning paper was Evaluating the Effectiveness of Countdown Pedestrian Signals on the Safety of Older Drivers in the State of Michigan.

Congratulations to our educational scholarship award winners. I wish them all the best in their studies to become future transportation specialists!

The ITE International Annual Meeting was held in Hollywood, Florida from August 2nd thru 5th and it was (Continued on Page 2)
announced that Jeff Paniati is the new ITE Executive Director and CEO. While it was fun to be in the sun, I was so proud to represent the Michigan Section as the section and state were recognized with several awards. The four awards included the Theodore M. Matson Memorial Award presented to Kirk Steudle, Director of MDOT; the Transportation Achievement Award for Facilities presented to Macomb County; the District and Section Newsletter Award for Circulation less than 250; and the District Rising Star Award presented to Lia Michaels. Please congratulate Kirk, John and Lia for their hard work and dedication to our section and state!

At the International level, there are several new programs and development opportunities to check out at ITE. The LeadershipITE program looks to explore current issues in transportation, develop and hone leadership skills and build a professional network to excel as leaders in ITE. The new ITE Rising Stars Program is intended to identify the next generation of the transportation profession and recognize members under the age of 35 who have already made an impact on the profession. Also, check out the Young Member Initiatives. If you are interested, please check out the ITE web site at www.ite.org for more information on these programs.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow board members, past and present, for their guidance and help during my time spent on the board. It is hard to believe how quickly time flies! I have learned so much and made some great friends along the way. I am truly proud to have served you all. We have great committees and great people that put in the time and effort to help make the Michigan Section of ITE one of the best. Come and join us!

Happy Holidays!

Danielle Deneau can be reached at (248) 858-4832 or ddeneau@rcoc.org.

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**Meet Your Director!**

**Carissa McQuiston, Michigan Department of Transportation**

Carissa McQuiston is the Non-Motorized Safety Engineering Specialist for the Michigan Department of Transportation. In this position, she is a statewide resource for pedestrian and bicycle issues on trunkline and local networks working towards reducing fatalities and serious injuries. Specifically, she is developing non-motorized guidance and training as well as managing the MDOT Road Safety Audit program.

Carissa also serves as the co-chair of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Action Team on the Governor’s Traffic Safety Advisory Commission charged with developing an action plan for improving safety.

Prior to joining MDOT, Carissa spent seven years with the City of Grand Rapids as Traffic Engineer/Traffic System Engineer, supervising the signal, sign and traffic engineering staff. Carissa also has previous experience in various traffic engineering positions with HNTB, URS and Wilbur Smith.

Carissa graduated from Michigan State University (Go Green!!) with a BS and MS in civil engineering and has been a member of ITE since entering the engineering program at MSU.

She has lives in Holt with her husband and two children ages 9 and almost 7 years old.

Carissa McQuiston can be reached at (517) 335-2834 or McQuistonC@michigan.gov.
The ITE Educational Fund Golf Outing held its 23rd annual benefit golf outing at Mystic Creek Golf Club in Milford, Michigan on Thursday, May 28th. The Michigan Section ITE Golf Committee would like to extend our thanks to all the firms that generously supported this year’s benefit golf tournament. This year’s golf outing was a success with a total of 81 golfers and gorgeous weather. There were 26 hole sponsors and numerous door prize contributors, which are all listed below.

Additional thanks are extended to all of the outing participants. Many of you dug deep into your pockets to participate in the on-course challenge holes, raffle, and flagging tape which contributes to over 20 percent of the total profit.

This year, profits from the event totaled $9,674.22, all of which is deposited directly into the Michigan Section ITE Educational Fund. This fund is used to provide free attendance at Michigan Section meetings, to provide monetary awards for annual student research paper competition, to help defray students’ costs for attending national ITE and Transportation Research Board meetings, and to provide scholarships to worthy transportation engineering students at Michigan State University, Michigan Technological University, Western Michigan University and Wayne State University.

Congratulations to Tim Brandstetter, Jason Archibald, Paul Koning, and Luis Lopez who captured first place at the event! And thanks to all who made this event a success!

Lunch Sponsors:
- Billy Fields Cookies
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- Dialight Corporation
- DLZ Michigan
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- Iteris, Inc.
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- Siemens
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- Traffic Data Collection
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- Valmont
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Hole Sponsors:
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- Parsons
- Pelco Products, Inc.
- Rathco Safety Supply, Inc.
- Rowe Professional Services Company
- Sensys Networks Inc.
- Siemens
- Tapco
- T.A.M. Rental Co.
- Traffic Data Collection
- Union Metal Corporation
- Utility Metals
- Valmont
- Wade Trim

Door Prize Contributors:
- Tim Haagsma
- Joseph Marson
- Kevin McCarthy
Michigan Tech University - Bill Sproule
Fabick Coatings and Sealants

Aimee Giacherio can be reached at (616) 363-8181 or agiacherio@wadetrim.com.

Winning Team of Tim Brandstetter, Jason Archibald, Paul Koning, and Luis Lopez
2015 Student Paper Winner

Congratulations to the 2015 student paper winner, Richard Atta Boateng from Western Michigan University. Richard received $500 for his paper entitled “Evaluating the Effectiveness of Countdown Pedestrian Signals on the Safety of Older Drivers in the State of Michigan”. His abstract and information about him is provided below.

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Countdown Pedestrian Signals on the Safety of Older Drivers in the State of Michigan

This study seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of countdown pedestrian signals of randomly selected treatment sites and its safety impacts on the older drivers and pedestrian in general. A Before-After study with a comparison group methodology was used to evaluate the effectiveness and safety impacts of this counter measure. Geometric characteristics, land use characteristics as well as traffic data for each of the sites were used as the basis for selecting the comparison group. The results obtained showed reductions of 5.378% and 7.262% in total as well as fatal & injury crashes respectively. The study also showed reductions of 15.078% and 52.339% in total and fatal/injury crashes involving older drivers of 65+ years respectively. Furthermore, the results revealed a 31.722% reduction for total pedestrian crashes and 19.576% reduction in fatal and injury crashes involving pedestrians and a reduction of 64.7% and 55.14% for total and fatal/injury crashes involving elderly (65+ years) pedestrians.

About the Winner:
Richard Atta Boateng

My name is Richard Atta Boateng and I am a civil engineering graduate student at Western Michigan University, majoring in Transportation Engineering. I did my undergraduate studies at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana. I am currently working in the Transportation Research Center for Livable Communities (TRCLC) at WMU as a Research/Teaching Assistant. My career desire has always been to work on real problems facing people every day on our roads and to see my work implemented in practice to help make a difference in the transportation world. Receiving the ITE Michigan Section Student Paper award has been an extreme honor and I feel very proud and motivated that my work has been recognized by this prestigious organization. This has been possible due to enormous support and time the professors at Western Michigan University spend with students in our research laboratories. Great thanks to Professors Valerian Kwigizile, Jun-Seok Oh and Zhanbo Sun for their guidance and support.

Richard Atta Boateng can be reached at (269) 779-9063 or richard.attaboateng@wmich.edu.

COMING SOON . . . ITE TRIVIA!

The Board is planning a fun night out for the first ever ITE Trivia Competition! Mark your calendars for February 11, 2015. Host locations will be set up in various cities and there will be prizes. Contact Paul Arends, Vice President, for more details at 616-451-2663 or Arendsp@michigan.gov.
JUNE 26-28, 2016
2016 MIDWESTERN/GREAT LAKES DISTRICT MEETING
CHICAGO

2016
ITE

TECHNICAL SESSIONS, WORKSHOPS, AND TOURS
VENDOR EXHIBITS
NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES AND LASTING CONNECTIONS
STUDENT TRAFFIC BOWL
SOCIAL OUTINGS TO CHICAGO’S WORLD CLASS ATTRACTIONS AND DINING

EXPERIENCE THE 2016 CONFERENCE IN THE HEART OF THE WINDY CITY!
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS LATE 2015 • REGISTRATION BEGINS SPRING 2016

THE CHANGING FACE OF TRANSPORTATION

Please join us in the heart of Chicago, IL for the ITE Midwestern and Great Lakes Joint District Meeting June 26 through June 28.

This meeting will represent 14 states, providing an opportunity for attendees to network with a diverse group of transportation professionals and to experience a robust technical program focusing on the latest trends in transportation. It will be located at the Holiday Inn Chicago-Mart Plaza River North, steps from downtown Chicago’s famous restaurants, shops, and attractions.

Visit us online at: www.chicago2016mwlite.com

Holiday Inn
CHICAGO MART PLAZA RIVER NORTH

350 West Mart Center Drive
at River North Point
Chicago, IL 60654

www.martplaza.com
2016 Director Candidates

**Tim Brandstetter, P.E., PTOE**
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

Tim is an engineer with nine years of transportation planning and traffic operations experience with Kimley-Horn and Associates. After graduating from Georgia Tech with his BS and MS in Civil Engineering, he began his career in Atlanta, Georgia. Over the past three years, Tim, his wife, and daughter have been proud Michiganders, happy to be back in Big Ten country (after growing up in Ohio) and enjoying all four seasons found in the Midwest.

From being a student chapter president at Georgia Tech, to serving terms as the Host Committee Chair and Scholarship Committee Chair for the Georgia Section of ITE, Tim has been committed to staying involved in order to help shape and influence ITE. From having the privilege of working with traffic professionals across Michigan, he is excited about the opportunity of serving those professionals as a member of the ITE Board. He wants to focus on reinvigorating membership and providing meaningful avenues for the exchange of ideas and networking opportunities across the state. ITE members all have passions for mobility and safety, and Tim is prepared to channel those passions to enrich Michigan ITE and its members.

*Tim Brandstetter can be reached at (248) 526-0577 or tim.brandstetter@kimley-horn.com.*

**Lia Michaels, P.E., PTOE**
Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.

Lia has worked at Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. (HRC) for the past seven years and was recently promoted to Project Engineer in HRC’s Traffic Department. Her responsibilities include design of traffic signals and Intelligent Transportation Systems, conducting traffic signal optimization studies, performing traffic impact studies for commercial developments, and providing traffic, safety and design assistance on various projects. She received a Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from Michigan State University in 2006 and a Master’s degree in Civil Engineering specializing in Transportation from Wayne State University in 2008.

Lia has been an active member of the Michigan Section of ITE since college and has been responsible for the newsletter for the past six years. With the help of the past Board members and everyone contributing to the newsletter, the Michigan Section received the District and Section Newsletter Award twice through International ITE. Lia has enjoyed her time as newsletter editor and looks forward to getting involved in other areas of the organization.

This past August, Lia received the ITE Great Lakes District Rising Star Award. She was honored to represent the Great Lakes District and attend the ITE International Annual Meeting to receive the award. She looks forward to the opportunity to attend future meetings and would love to be able to represent the Michigan Section as a Board member.

Lia has met some great people through ITE and formed some lasting friendships. She looks forward to continuing to participate in the wonderful opportunities ITE provides and encouraging other engineers to get involved.

Lia lives in Grosse Pointe Woods with her husband Marc and 1.5 year old son Victor. In her free time, she enjoys playing golf, traveling, playing the piano and spending time with family and friends.

*Lia Michaels can be reached at (248) 454-6812 or lmi-chael@hrc-engr.com.*

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**Important Upcoming ITE Meeting Dates**

2016 International Annual Meeting & Exhibit
August 14-17, 2016
Anaheim Marriott, Anaheim, California
ITE Fall Technical Session  
By Hailey Savola, Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.

The ITE Fall Technical Session was held on October 15, 2015 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Approximately 50 engineers and technicians were in attendance to learn about many different aspects of transportation. Chris Zull, City of Grand Rapids Traffic Safety Manager, hosted the event. He shared updates about the City of Grand Rapids and what projects are coming to implement more transportation technologies.

The session was split into a Morning Session and an Afternoon Session. The Morning Session included a presentation on Implementing Zipper Lanes for Work Zone Traffic Control by Pamela Blazo, MDOT. Pamela shared the data obtained from two West Michigan projects (I-96 and I-196) where zipper lanes were utilized in the work zones. She had data that was logged showing the delay times for a regular work zone operation compared to the zipper lane operation for both projects. Next, Trooper Scott Carlson of the Michigan State Police shared the updated UD-10 form and the new information and uses of the program.

Lunch was provided by Horseshoe Smokehouse in Grand Rapids. The lunch consisted of pulled pork, smoked chicken, brisket, rolls, sweet potato hash, and fries among many unique sauces. It was a delicious example of the amazing restaurants Grand Rapids has to offer.

The Afternoon Session included a presentation by Chris Brooks, MDOT, regarding the new MDOT Traffic Prequalification: Work Zone Mobility and Safety. Chris broke down the requirements and the application processes for those in attendance. After a short break and networking time, Chris Zull gathered everyone for a Road Diet Panel Discussion. On the panel was Colleen Hill-Stramsak from Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., Mike Labadie from Fleis & Vander-Brink, and Matt Hunter from CDM Smith. The panel answered questions relating to road diets and the successes and difficulties that they have faced implementing road diets. The last session of the afternoon was presented by Joshua Fink, AECOM. He presented on Macomb County’s COMTEC Application of ITS to Enhance Traffic Engineering Based Operations. He shared the many technological advances that are being utilized by Macomb County and the future of those advances.

The Fall Technical Session concluded with a closing by Chris Zull. Thank you to Chris for being a generous host and opening up Grand Rapids for all who attended. Also, thank you to all the presenters for sharing such valuable information of the advances in transportation.

Hailey Savola can be reached at (616) 460-8658 or hsavola@hrc-engr.com.

New Members of ITE Michigan Section

Patrick Andridge  
Opus International Consultants, Inc.

Christopher Bauer  
Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.

Pam Blazo  
Michigan Department of Transportation

Garrett Dawe  
Michigan Department of Transportation

Jeffrey Feeney  
HNTB Michigan, Inc.

Lisa Goodrich  
Bergmann Associates

Marc Matich  
Traffic Data Collection

Cyrus Naheedy  
MS2 – Midwestern Software Solutions

Heidi Spangler  
Michigan Department of Transportation

Welcome to the Michigan Section of ITE!!

Do you want to become a member of the Michigan Section of ITE? If so, please contact the Section Secretary Matt Hill at (313) 310-8239 or hillma@pbworld.com.
2015 ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit

The ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit was held in Hollywood, Florida on August 3rd though 5th, 2015 and brought together transportation leaders, professionals, students, and vendors to participate in networking events, seminars, technical tours, and workshops—all aimed at advancing individuals and the profession as a whole. As members celebrated ITE’s 85th anniversary during the meeting, the Institute’s current and future identity was explored, with the core mission of providing safe and efficient transportation for all people across all modes remaining at the heart of the organization.

During the awards luncheon on December 4th, four members of the Michigan Section were recognized: Kirk Steudle from the Michigan Department of Transportation, John Abraham from the Macomb County Department of Roads, Lia Michaels from Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. and Danielle Deneau from the Road Commission for Oakland County. Congratulations to all the award recipients! Details about the Michigan Section awards are provided below.

Theodore M. Matson Memorial Award
The Theodore M. Matson Memorial Award honors outstanding contributions in the field of traffic engineering, including practical application of traffic engineering techniques or principles, valuable contributions through research, successful adaptation of research findings to a practical traffic situation, and the advancement of the profession through training or administration.

Kirk T. Steudle from the Michigan Department of Transportation was selected for the 2015 Theodore M. Matson Memorial Award for his contributions toward the advancement of the transportation profession.

Transportation Achievement Award for Facilities
John Abraham represented the Macomb County Department of Roads Communications and Technology Center (COMTEC) as recipient of the Transportation Achievement Award for Facilities.

COMTEC is a 25,000 square foot state-of-the art facility located in Mt. Clemens, Michigan that provides 24/7 situational awareness for residents, businesses, and first responders. The project evolved from a small Traffic Operations Center (TOC) to the largest local agency operations center in Michigan. Funding and implementation of the project was undertaken in cooperation with four departments—Macomb County's Department of Roads TOC, Macomb County's Sheriff Dispatch, Macomb County's Office of Emergency Management, and Macomb County's Information Technology. The project was completed under budget and ahead of schedule.
2015 ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit

2014 Student Scholarship Winners

Each year, members of the Education Scholarship Committee select students to receive four $2,000 scholarships from the Michigan Section of ITE. The 2014 winners were:

- Emily Blaney, Michigan Tech University
- Jonathan Baggett - Wayne State University
- Brenda Hodgell - Western Michigan University
- Alyssa Myers, Michigan Tech University

Congratulations to the winners!

Young Members Committee Rising Stars Award

Lia Michaels from Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. received the Rising Stars Award for the Great Lakes District for her ability to lead the next generation, to implement innovative techniques to solve transportation problems and for making an impact on the transportation profession as a younger member of the Institute.

2015 Fall Golf Outing

By Aimee Giacherio, WadeTrim

The ITE Michigan Section held its annual fall golf outing at Willow Wood Golf Club in Portland, Michigan on Thursday, September 24th. This year’s outing had a total of 24 golfers for a fun day on the course. Congratulations to the winning Kent County Road Commission team of Tim Haagsma, Dan Luyk, Scott Bocian, and Terry Porritt! We look forward to seeing everyone again next year on the golf course.

Aimee Giacherio can be reached at (616) 363-8181 or agiacherio@wadetrim.com.
The Joy of Urban Traffic Engineering
By Richard Beaubien, Beaubien Engineering

Urban traffic engineers are sometimes concerned that what they are doing as professionals to promote the safe and efficient movement of people and goods is not well understood or well recognized by the public or by elected officials. Symptoms of the inadequate recognition and understanding include below-average compensation and the downgrading of the traffic engineering function within public agency organizations. Despite these concerns, there are many joys and satisfactions in being an urban traffic engineer.

First, it is challenging and interesting. Two very basic human needs are to be needed and to be loved. Tackling the challenge of a job in urban traffic engineering fulfills the first of these basic human needs – you are doing something important with your life for the benefit of others. It is a demanding job because so much is expected of you. Motorists want an efficient transportation system, so that they will not be unduly delayed by red traffic signals or by traffic congestion. Employers want their employees to arrive for work on time, and they expect expeditious shipment of goods. Motorists and pedestrians who become involved in traffic crashes demand corrections to the transportation systems to ensure that the crash will not be repeated. Elected officials want the needs and desires of both travelers and employers to be satisfied – within a strict budget, of course.

That is enough of a challenge for anyone, but responding to this challenge in interesting because our branch of engineering has an unusually large human component. The human component is most evident in the driver portion of the driver/vehicle/roadway traffic safety equation and in the emotions that sometimes drive the political decisions in transportation.

Second, the satisfaction in meeting this challenge comes the fact that you have the power and authority (within limits) to effect change. For the most part, traffic signs, signals, and pavement markings are installed and modified under your authority. Once you direct the change, and it is made, traffic operations are affected almost immediately.

A third satisfaction is being able to see a long-term project progress from conception to completion. Taking the broadest possible view of your responsibility to provide safe and efficient travel, you should be involved in the planning and design of new construction, as well as the operation of existing facilities. This puts you in on the ground floor when the project is just beginning to be developed. You will be part of the project justification process (traffic estimates, traffic impacts, cost estimates, benefits identification, grant application, etc.) You will be involved in the plan preparation and perhaps right-of-way acquisition. Finally, when construction is complete, you will operate the new or reconstructed system. This involvement in the project from conception to completion gives you an understanding of how planning, design, and operation relate to each other. You also understand how the transportation project impacts the needs of society. Some projects could take 10 or more years to complete, but once the project is open to traffic you have a unique appreciation of how it benefits the public.

A fourth satisfaction is the development of your own professional artistry. Through reflection in engineering practice, you develop a “feel” for your community. You know which engineering solutions will work and which will be acceptable in your community. You identify a constituency for transportation improvements and work with that constituency to make your community a better place to live and work. Every once in a while you might receive a compliment in the form of a phone call or a letter from a resident – perhaps even a “well done” or “Atta boy” from a city council member. You are on your way to becoming well-respected.

So when the problems and frustrations of traffic engineering are about to overwhelm you, remember that you have some special talents and abilities that are very much needed by your community. Those talents and abilities are in short supply right now. The joys of traffic engineering are the satisfactions of taking on very demanding and interesting tasks and making your community a better place to live.

Richard Beaubien can be reached at (248) 515-3628 or rfbeaubienpe@gmail.com.
Treasurer Report - September 2015
By Brent Schlack, Washtenaw County Road Commission

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<tr>
<th>Section Fund Balance (As Of September 30, 2015)</th>
<th>$ 25,995.47</th>
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<td>Regular Fund Balance</td>
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<td>Technical Projects Fund Balance</td>
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**Income - Section Regular Fund** $ 10,731.31

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<td>Dues</td>
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<td>Late Dues/ Fines</td>
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<td>Other/District Mtg</td>
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**Expenses - Section Regular Fund** $ 8,884.40

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**Income - Section Education Fund** $ 18,395.88

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<td>Member Contributions</td>
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**Expenses - Section Education Fund** $ 20,612.61

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<td>Golf Outing: Gifts/Prizes</td>
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<td>Student Group Trips</td>
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**Income - Technical Projects Fund** $ -

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<td>Contributions</td>
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**Expenses - Technical Projects Fund** $ -

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<tr>
<td>Disbursements</td>
<td>$ -</td>
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2015 Executive Board & Committee Chairs

President:
Danielle Deneau
Road Commission for Oakland County
(248) 858-4832, ddeneau@rcoc.org

Vice President:
Paul Arends
Michigan Department of Transportation
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Treasurer:
Brent Schlack
Washtenaw County Road Commission
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Secretary:
Matthew Hill
Parsons Brinckerhoff
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Director:
Carissa McQuiston
Michigan Department of Transportation
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Immediate Past President:
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OHM Advisors
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Affiliate Director:
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Washtenaw County Road Commission
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Director:
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